

NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD PROPEX FACILITY UNDEVELOPED TRACT 320 SHILOH ROAD, SOUTH CAROLINA

DHEC (the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) is accepting public comments on a potential Voluntary Cleanup Contract until July 22, 2011.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 11-6032-NRP, will affect approximately 112 acres identified by tax map number 240-00-04-006. Oconee County ("County") wants to buy the property from its current owners. This Voluntary Cleanup Contract will be between DHEC and the County.

The property is undeveloped and is located adjacent to the former Propex manufacturing facility. General location uses around the property include the former Propex facility to the west and is otherwise surrounded by residential and wooded areas.

The County intends to develop the Property for industrial and/or business use to create jobs and increase tax base for the community. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, DHEC will allow the County to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of the potential for environmental pollution. The County did not create the pollution, but will take steps to control it to keep the property safe for re-use.

DHEC will not hold the County responsible for the pre-existing pollution in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under State law, the County will not be responsible if anyone is affected by the contamination. Entering into this contract does not reduce the responsibility of any former owners or operators of the site.

Under the proposed contract, the County will test soil and groundwater from the property. If significant contamination is found, the County will be required to take additional steps to protect human health and the environment.

DHEC uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to keep Brownfield sites in productive reuse. The proposed contract is available at http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/lwm/public_notice.asp. Printed copies may be obtained from the DHEC Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

Citizens may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract until July 22, 2011. Questions or comments may be directed to Jerry Stamps, Project Manager, email stampsjm@dhec.sc.gov, telephone (803) 896-4285, or Alex Fulmer, email FulmerWA@dhec.sc.gov or TOLL-FREE telephone (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to either individual at SCDHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.